

TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND
Easton Town Hall
14 S. Harrison Street

March 1, 2010

PRESENT AT CONVENING

8	Mayor Robert C. Willey	11	Councilmember Pete Leshner
9	Council President John F. Ford	12	Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski
10	Councilmember Kelley K. Malone	13	Councilmember Megan M. Cook

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were the Town Manager Mr. Karge, the Town Attorney Ms. VanEmburch, Town Planner Mr. Hamilton, Long Range Planner Mr. Thomas, Code Official Mr. Richardson and Town Clerk Mrs. Ruf.

CONVENING

At 7:00 p.m., President Ford called the meeting to order.

Mr. Leshner opened the meeting with prayer and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously; minutes of the February 16, 2010 meetings were approved.

ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY

Mayor Willey reminded those present that Capital Budgets are due Friday. He stated that the Department Heads have been asked to project requests for ten years out.

Mayor Willey discussed MML legislative considerations.

President Ford asked Mayor Willey to extend the Council's appreciation for her approach to the mural project in the Council's chambers.

Mr. Leshner asked for clarification on the budget process.

Mayor Willey discussed the process and schedule for the preliminary budget.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Karge stated that the Public Works Department is still working on clearing from the blizzard. He stated that the preliminary costs could be in excess of \$200,000.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY

Ms. VanEmburch stated that she will be on vacation during the next meeting and Mr. Fitzgerald will be present due to her absence.

EASTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Assistant Chief Jamie McNeal discussed the February statistical report and upcoming fundraisers.

MR. HUGH E. GRUNDEN TO UPDATE COUNCIL ON EASTON UTILITIES

Mr. Grunden discussed projects Easton Utilities is working on. He stated that electric prices are down 44%; natural gas 38%. Mr. Grunden stated that there was one storm related outage. Easton Cable is adding 18 high definition channels which will give them a total of 50. Mr. Grunden reported that Easton Utilities is doing a customer survey starting in March which usually gives them good feedback. He discussed receiving stimulus funding for upcoming projects. Easton Utilities' website now has a link for a replay of the County Council and Town Council's meetings.

69 **LETTER FROM R. ANDREW HOLLIS, COUNTY MANAGER REQUESTING ABATEMENT OF**
70 **BUILDING PERMIT FEE FOR TALBOT COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER-ICE ARENA**
71 **REPAIRS, PHASE II**
72

73 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski, seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously; the building permit
74 fees associated with the Community Center Ice Arena were abated.
75

76 **LETTER FROM MS. CHRISTINA P. MILLS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; MENTAL HEALTH**
77 **ASSOCIATION IN TALBOT COUNTY, INC., REQUESTING PERMISSION TO PLACE**
78 **BANNER AT TALBOTTOWN FOR THE 17TH ANNUAL CHARITY ANTIQUES SHOW AT THE**
79 **WATERFOWL FESTIVAL BUILDING.**
80

81 Ms. Tina Mills was present and invited everyone to come to the Antiques Show.
82

83 Mr. Leshner discussed banner requests being handled by staff.
84

85 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Cook and carried unanimously; approval was granted for the
86 banner as outlined in the letter.
87

88 **LETTER FROM MR. DAVID DIANICH, REGARDING A REQUEST FOR A LICENSE FROM**
89 **THE TOWN TO PERMIT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FRONT STOOP WITHIN THE S.**
90 **AURORA RIGHT-OF-WAY.**
91

92 Ms. Lauren Dianich, Atelier 11 discussed the proposed project.
93

94 The Town Attorney stated that she will need something from the surveyor to attach to the proposed
95 legislation.
96

97 It was the consensus of the council to grant the request.
98

99 The Town Attorney will forward appropriate legislation.
100

101 **RESOLUTION NO. 5958, “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTON ADOPTING THE**
102 **TOWN OF EASTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.”**
103

104 Mr. Ford discussed concerns relative to the Comprehensive Plan
105

106 It was the council consensus to emphasize for a 1% growth rate.
107

108 The portion of the Brooks farm which is not in town will be designated Priority 2 in its entirety.
109

110 It was the consensus to add text for the small area plan for RTC property.
111

112 Ms. Malone asked that text regarding sacrifices the Airport has made be modified.
113

114 Ms. Cook asked that an amendment be included that stated that the Town will consider inclusion in the
115 Comprehensive Plan of a tree plan should one be adopted.
116

117 Upon motion by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously; Resolution No. 5958 was
118 approved.
119

120 **RECESS**
121

122 At 8:40 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Wendowski, seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously;
123 President Ford declared a five minute recess.
124

125 **RECONVENE MEETING**
126

127 At 8:45 p.m., President Ford reconvened the regularly scheduled meeting.
128

129 **ORDINANCE NO. 570, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON APPROVING**
130 **AMENDMENTS TO THE PLANNED HEALTHCARE (“HC”) SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**
131 **KNOWN AS “TALBOT HOSPICE FOUNDATION, INC.,” WHICH WAS APPROVED BY SITE**
132 **DEVELOPMENT PLAN 79 UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE EASTON ZONING**
133 **ORDINANCE.”**
134

President Ford introduced Ordinance No. 570 for a first reading.

LETTER REGARDING LAKELANDS PUD SUBDIVISION FROM MR. JOHN A. ATWOOD, CHAIRMAN; EASTON PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION.

President Ford set the Public Hearing regarding the Lakelands PUD Subdivision for April 5, 2010 at 7:15 p.m.

LETTER REGARDING ASHBY COMMONS PUD SUBDIVISION FROM MR. JOHN A. ATWOOD, CHAIRMAN; EASTON PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION.

President Ford set the Public Hearing regarding the Ashby Commons PUD Subdivision for March 15, 2010 at 7:15 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 566, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING CHAPTER 6 BUILDING CODES TO INCORPORATE THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE."

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously; Ordinance No. 566 was approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 567, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING CHAPTER 6 BUILDING CODES TO INCORPORATE THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE."

Upon motion by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously; Ordinance No. 567 was approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 568, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON REPEALING CHAPTER 5A MODEL ENERGY CODE AND AMENDING CHAPTER 6 BUILDING CODES TO INCORPORATE THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE."

Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski, seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously; Ordinance No. 568 was approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 569, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON REPEALING §11-5 THRU §11-7 AND REENACTING WITH AMENDMENTS, TO INCORPORATE THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE 2009."

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously; Ordinance No. 569 was approved.

REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$963,605.96.

Upon motion by Ms. Malone seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously; invoices were approved for payment.

ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Ms. Malone stated that there will be a Ward 1 gathering at Easton Firehouse on March 21.

Mr. Ford reminded those present of the Council workshop Monday, March 8 at 6:00 p.m. He stated that there will be an Executive Session at the end of the workshop.

ADJOURN

At 9:12 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously; President Ford adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk